



News Release

Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UNMANNED GROUND COMBAT VEHICLE PROTOTYPES ROLL OUT

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) and the U.S. Army and their contractor teams have unveiled the two Unmanned Ground Combat Vehicle (UGCV) technology demonstration platforms to the public. The two prototypes now enter a period of extensive testing and refinement to validate the design performance characteristics and highlight capabilities enabled by their unique design approaches.

The 1,500 pound Team Retarius platform rolled out during a ceremony at Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, N.M., on January 22.

Team Spinner rolled out its seven ton version on February 6 in Pittsburgh, Pa.

DARPA and the Army have sponsored the development of the two prototype UGCV technology demonstration platforms as a part of the jointly funded Future Combat Systems (FCS) program.

"The rollout is an important achievement as we move from design and simulation to the full-scale hardware testing needed to provide information to the Army for their FCS decision milestones," said Scott Fish, DARPA program manager for the UGCV program. "The UGCV prototypes represent significant advances in vehicle design. Each embodies a strategy for the kind of high mobility, efficiency, deployability, and resilience that will be needed to generate significant mission value to our future forces."

The Team Spinner UGCV will carry an assortment of payloads weighing approximately 4,500 pounds and is close to the size of the Future Combat Systems' Armed Reconnaissance Vehicle.

The Team Retarius UGCV will carry a variety of payloads weighing approximately 350 pounds and is close to the size the Future Combat Systems is considering for its "mule" type vehicle. FCS envisions the "mule" vehicle in a variety of roles from direct support to dismounted troops to light reconnaissance as part of a network of combat entities.

Both designs can accommodate severe events such as rollovers and continue operation upside down. Each are also configured for air drop and long-range operations to simplify early

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entry, and reduce their logistics burden. Both vehicles are also highly mobile and can obtain very low profile configurations to reduce their detectability. Power systems aboard each vehicle are advanced hybrid electric to provide long silent watch and movement as well as enable unique payload packaging strategies.

Team Retarius was established by Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control and includes team members Sandia National Laboratories, Rod Millen Special Vehicles, BAE Systems, MSE High Performance Materials Group and Atkinson Associates.

Team Spinner, lead by Carnegie Mellon University, includes team members Boeing, Timoney Technology, and PEI Electronics Inc.

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Media with questions, please contact Jan Walker, (703) 696-2404, or jwalker@darpa.mil. Military organizations should contact Scott Fish, (703) 696-2302 or sfish@darpa.mil. This release and photos of the vehicles are available on the web at www.darpa.mil/body/news.html .